

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /011 R

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DRAFTED BY: AF/ N: HIODELL

APPROVED BY: AF/ N: HIODELL

AF- AMBASSADOR ROSS

S/ S- MR. BARNES

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R 132230 Z MAR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TUNIS

S E C R E T STATE 044655

EXDIS

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION KUWAIT FROM SECSTATE 10 MARCH 73 REPEATED
TO YOU:

QUOTE STATE 44655

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PINS: SU, KU

SUBJECT: GOK CONDOLENCES OVER KHARTOUM EVENTS

1. KUWAITI AMBASSADOR SHAYKH SALIM CALLED ON THE SECRETARY
MARCH 8 TO SAY HE HAD RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM HIS
GOVERNMENT TO EXPRESS ITS DEEP SYMPATHY AND CONDOLENCES
OVER DEATH OF AMBASSADOR NOEL AND MR. MOORE. IT WAS VERY
SAD DEVELOPMENT WHICH ALL DIPLOMATS NOW HAD TO FACE.

2. SECRETARY SAID HE HOPED THIS WOULD NOT BE THE CASE. HE
RECALLED WHEN HE WAS IN KUWAIT LAST YEAR STATING HOW INSANE
ACTS OF TERRORISM COULD BE. IT WAS IRONIC THAT TERRORISTS
HAD KILLED TWO OF BEST FRIENDS THAT SUDAN EVER HAD. TO
HAVE THEM MACHINE GUNNED IN COLD BLOOD WAS BEYOND HUMAN
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COMPREHENSION. HE WAS PLEASED THAT PRESIDENT NIMAIRI OF SUDAN HAD TAKEN THE SAME VIEW.

3. SHAYKH SALIM SAID THAT ATTACK IN SUDAN SEEMED TO BE ACT OF YOUNG IRRESPONSIBLES. SECRETARY SAID HE DID NOT FEEL ANY EXCUSES COULD BE MADE. HE NOTED THAT ATTACK ON SAUDI EMBASSY IN KHARTOUM BY TERRORISTS HAD BEEN WELL ORGANIZED. TO THINK THAT THIS ATTACK WAS ONE WAY OF ACHIEVING JUSTICE IN THE MIDDLE EAST MADE IT ONLY MORE DIFFICULT FOR THOSE WHO BELIEVED THAT THE ARAB CAUSE WAS IN MANY RESPECTS VALID AND JUSTIFIED. IF FEDAYEEN CONTINUED THESE TERRORIST ACTS, ARABS WOULD LOSE WORLD SUPPORT.

4. IN RESPONSE SHAYKH SALIM QUESTION OF WHAT PRESIDENT NIMAIRI WOULD DO, SECRETARY BELIEVED GOS HAD HANDLED SITUATION VERY WELL UNDER DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES. MANY IN USG HAD GAINED MUCH RESPECT FOR NIMAIRI IN RECENT DAYS FOR HIS STRONG STAND BRING TERRORISTS TO JUSTICE. SECRETARY ADDED THAT EVENTS IN KHARTOUM WERE ACTS WHICH CIVILIZED WORLD COULD NOT ACCEPT.

5. SHAYKH SALIM SAID HE HAD COME TO CONVEY SORROW AND CONDOLENCES BUT THERE WERE MANY PROS AND CONS FOR THE FEDAYEEN, MANY OF WHOM REMEMBER THEIR PARENTS OR RELATIVES BEING KILLED BY ZIONISTS. SECRETARY SAID HE COULD NOT ACCEPT THIS REASONING FOR BRUTAL KILLING OF THE AMERICAN DIPLOMATS. HE THOUGHT GOK SHOULD GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO ITS CONTINUED FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR FEDAYEEN. USG THOUGHT IT WAS COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE.

6. SHAYKH SALIM SAID HE WISHED TO MAKE CLEAR THAT GOK DID NOT APPROVE OF KILLINGS. HE HOPED NOW THAT US INVOLVEMENT IN VIETNAM WAS WINDING DOWN THAT US WOULD CONCENTRATE ON MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT. SECRETARY SAID HE DID NOT WANT TO TALK ABOUT KILLINGS OF THE TWO US DIPLOMATS IN CONTEXT US MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT EFFORTS. IT REFLECTS A LACK OF UNDERSTANDING OF PRESIDENT NIXON'S VIEW AND OUR VIEWS TO BELIEVE THAT KILLING AMERICAN DIPLOMATS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AN OCCASION TO REFER TO THE NEED FOR INCREASED EFFORTS BY THE UNITED STATES TO SETTLE THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM. CONDOLENCES WERE OF NO VALUE IF AT THE SAME TIME WE ENGAGE IN DISCUSSION OF
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COMPROMISES WITH TERRORISTS OR WITH THOSE RESPONSIBLE

FOR THE TERRORISTS. ROGERS
UNQUOTE
ROGERS

SECRET

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